

## Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /136 W

----- 073379

R 260930Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5899

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 5910

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CB

SUBJECT: FORMER CHIEF OF STATE CHENG HENG DEPARTS FOR PARIS

REF: PHNOM PENH 4705

1. FORMER CHIEF OF STATE AND HIGH POLITICAL COUNCIL MEMBER CHENG HENG DEPARTED PHNOM PENH APRIL 26 FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT (PROSTATE OPERATION) IN PARIS. IN PRE-DEPARTURE CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF CHENG HENG MADE CLEAR THAT HE WILL TRY TO KEEP HIS SMALL POLITICAL FOLLOWING HERE INTACT DURING HIS ESTIMATED TWO-MONTH ABSENCE IN THE HOPE OF REENTERING THE POLITICAL SCENE AT A LATER DATE. HE HAS DESIGNATED MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH SOK HEANG SUN AS INTERIM LEADER OF "NEUTRALIST" PARTICIPANTS IN THE GOVERNMENT. HE INDICATED THAT HE EXPECTS ANY CHALLENGE TO HIS FRIENDS' CONTINUING IN THE GOVERNMENT TO COME FROM SIRIK MATAK'S REPUBLICANS RATHER THAN LON NOL.

2. CHENG HENG SAID HE HAS TOLD PRESIDENT LON NOL WHEN TAKING LEAVE THAT HE FULLY RECOGNIZES HIS PERSONAL FUTURE IS TIED FIRMLY TO THAT OF THE GKR. HE ASSURED THE MARSHAL AND US THAT HE WILL NOT PUBLICLY ATTACK CURRENT GKR LEADERSHIP WHILE IN FRANCE. IN PRIVATE, OF COURSE, CHENG HENG CAN BE EXPECTED TO DWELL ON LON NOL ADMINISTRATION'S MILITARY AND ECONOMIC SHORTCOMINGS.

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3. WE SUGGESTED THAT CHENG HENG CONTACT FSO MARK PRATT  
SHOULD HE HAVE INFORMATION TO PASS TO US WHILE IN PARIS.  
DEAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEDICAL CARE, POLICIES, POLITICAL LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974PHNOM05910  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740099-0389  
**From:** PHNOM PENH  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 64  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** PHNOM PENH 4705  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <28 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FORMER CHIEF OF STATE CHENG HENG DEPARTS FOR PARIS  
**TAGS:** PINT, CB, (CHENG HENG)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005